

Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585 December 23, 2002

The Honorable John T. Conway Chairman Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board 625 Indiana Avenue, NW Washington, D.C. 20004

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The Office of Environment, Safety and Health (EH) has the responsibility for implementing Department of Energy (DOE) Policy 411.1, Safety Management Functions, Responsibilities and Authorities, and a major portion of this duty is maintaining the Department's corporate-level Functions, Responsibilities, and Authorities Manual (FRAM). As required by this manual, each Departmental office having environment, safety, and health functions must maintain an office-level document outlining the assignments within that office of the responsibilities the office holds under the FRAM. The recently revised EH Functions, Responsibilities and Authorities (FRA) document is enclosed.

The EH FRA document addresses the safety management activities assigned to EH in the draft of the FRAM (Draft DOE Manual 411.1-1C) that is currently being coordinated within the Department's Directives system. We issued the EH FRA document before the issuance of the revised FRAM because we believe that no further changes will occur to the EH responsibilities it contains during the remainder of the coordination process. Both the EH FRA document and the draft FRAM were available to your staff for review and comment.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (202) 586-5161.

Sincerely,

Beverly A. Cook

Assistant Secretary

Environment, Safety and Health

Enclosure

cc: M. Whitaker, S-3.1